

MINUTES
Judicial Education Committee
March 25, 2011

Members Present: John Rader, Chair; Jane Craney, Sherry Gregg Gilmore, Terry Harper, Steve Heimann, Bill Hughes, Earl Penrod, Nancy Vaidik, and Mary Willis.

Staff Present: Vicki Davis, Anne Jordan, Jane Seigel, Barbara Harcourt, and Julie McDonald.

1. The members approved the minutes from the October 22, 2010 meeting.
2. 2010 Winter Conference: Staff reported that the Winter Conference was attended by 178 conferees, 25 fewer than usual. The presenter, although well received in the past, didn't translate well to the judicial audience, although the topic did make the attendees open their eyes. The reviews were one-third positive, one-third negative, and one-third neutral. The committee agreed that this topic is speaker dependent, and that it has been presented better by others.
3. 2010 Prebench Orientation: Staff reported that the Prebench Orientation was attended by an engaged and vocal group of 15 newly-elected and a few newly-appointed judges.
4. 2011 General Jurisdiction Orientation: Staff reported that the General Jurisdiction Orientation was attended by 40 participants and almost an equal number of faculty. This was the first time breakouts were used for this conference, which permitted more topics to be covered in a shorter period of time. By the second and third breakout sessions, however, people attended session on areas over which they did not exercise jurisdiction. Staff said that one person commented that he thought the course would cover the law; as a result, IJC should be clearer about the scope of the orientation. The orientation was high-energy and provided 30 hours of CLE.
5. 2011 Spring Judicial College: Staff reported that registration for the Spring Judicial College will be electronic, except for 15 to 20 paper forms for holdouts. A few counties are still having trouble receiving emails, so we may need to use methods to avoid emails being classified as spam. Judge Vaidik said she was impressed by the breadth of the program's offerings.
6. Summit on Evidence-Based Practices: Staff discussed the Summit, scheduled for May 19, 2011, which IJC is co-sponsoring. Judges from each county are being asked to nominate teams. The Summit will discuss how risk assessment will impact sentences and how risks and needs will be addressed and will permit everyone to hear the same message at the same time. The committee acknowledged that, once needs are identified, counties may lack resources to provide for them.
7. 2011 Annual Meeting of Juvenile Court Judicial Officers, June 23-24: Staff reported that IJC is continuing to work on the agenda, which will again be held at the Renaissance Hotel and is sponsored by the Indiana Court Improvement Program.
8. 2011 September Conference:
 - a. Jane Seigel reported on a proposed opening session for the September Conference that focuses on getting to know the Indiana Supreme Court justices and is tied in to the new Indiana Supreme Court justices book. It is contemplated

that the session will be part video and part live talk show format with preapproved questions. Judge Vaidik recommended that the session end with a wrap-up focusing on what makes good judges. Judge Willis suggested questions that highlight the similarities and differences between appellate and trial judging and judges. Judge Harper recommended using humor, and Judge Rader suggested using “two truths and a lie” on the responder system. Judge Heiman would like to know more about the justices’ backgrounds.

- b. The committee expressed interest in the following topics for the September Conference:
 - i. dealing with the results of the Department of Toxicology audit,
 - ii. search & seizure (part 1 and part 2),
 - iii. another criminal law update (offered one time, no repeat),
 - iv. family law update,
 - v. finding assistance & assisting a colleague in distress,
 - vi. best practices in court personnel management,
 - vii. courts in history program: justices of the Indiana Supreme Court,
 - viii. post-conviction relief,
 - ix. ethics jeopardy,
 - x. civility & demeanor: dealing with difficult attorneys and prosecutors (with common media clips),
 - xi. judicial officer safety and security,
 - xii. court costs, fees, and fines: how to make money grow on trees, including Tammy White of State Board of Accounts tracking the dollar from fees and David Griffith of JTAC,
 - xiii. guidelines for handling elder abuse,
 - xiv. collection issues,
 - xv. attorney/judge disciplinary process,
 - xvi. summary judgment, and
 - xvii. Indiana constitutional law update
 - c. The committee does not recommend removing the Friday closing motivational plenary at the September Conference. Judge Gregg suggested that the speaker be from Indiana to save money, and Judge Willis recommended including ethics credit.
 - d. The committee discussed the space constraints surrounding Wednesday lunch at the September Conference in Indianapolis in 2012. Two potential solutions were suggested: (1) expand the time period for “lunch on your own,” or (2) provide a box lunch. The committee selected the box lunch option, with the caveat that the conference materials clearly state this is a box, rather than plated or buffet, lunch.
9. 2011 Winter Conference: Staff discussed potential topics for the 2011 Winter Conference, including domestic and family violence, for which State Court Administration has received a two-year grant for training. Judge Rader questioned whether this topic should be a stand-alone topic for the Winter Conference. Judge Hughes stated that this area must be covered more deeply. Judge Vaidik said that this could provide a basic domestic relations course in December, followed by a domestic relations track (suggested by Judge Craney) in Spring. Other topics discussed included a leadership forum and CourTools. This topic was postponed until the next meeting.

10. Faculty Development: Staff reported on the faculty development conference call in November 2010. The subcommittee will soon reconnect to continue work. Judge Hughes is working on how learners learn, Judge Penrod will tackle how to design a program, and Judge Vaidik will work on teaching methods. They also intend to work on a faculty development handbook.
11. Core Curriculum: Staff reported on the Core Curriculum for Judicial Education project, suggesting steps to building the curriculum, proposing the use of a needs assessment instrument, and asking the committee to consider whether court users should also be surveyed. The committee approved the needs assessment instrument for judicial officers once Julie McDonald adds some demographic information, such as size of county, experience on the bench, etc. The members look forward to continuing work on this issue.
12. Court Personnel Online Tool: Barbara Harcourt reported on the court personnel online training tool, which includes a supervisor and judges workbook, videos, quizzes, and other cutting-edge elements. The National Center for State Courts will host this tool and handle the technical problems. Barbara raised the question of policy and employment issues, which Jane Seigel stated will be considered by a judicial conference group yet to be determined.
13. Future Meeting Dates: Meetings are scheduled on the following Fridays in 2011 from 1:15 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.:
 - a. May 20
 - b. July 15 (*conference call)
 - c. October 21

Respectfully submitted,

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